

REMARKS

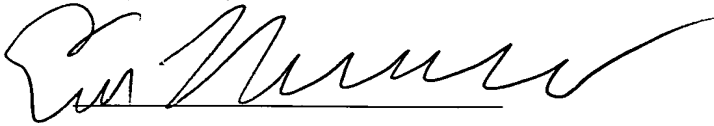
Applicants have amended claim 22 by inserting “load bearing member” as noted by the Examiner.

Applicants have amended claim 24 by inserting “load bearing member” as noted by the Examiner.

Applicants have amended independent claims 1, 25, and 26 to specify that the load bearing member outer resilient member unbonded outer surface is inwardly tapered in a direction from said first chamber mouth to said first chamber seat end proximate said load bearing seat end and the rebound member outer resilient member unbonded outer surface is inwardly tapered in a direction from said second chamber mouth to said second chamber seat end proximate said rebound seat end. Applicants hereby include a copy of Page 2, of the Office Action attached sheet showing the comparison of figure 3 of the DE ‘926 Reference to FIG. 3 of the Application, with hand written notations noting that the “unbonded outer surface” of DE ‘926 Reference pointed to in the Office Action are outwardly tapered in the direction from the mouth to the seat end and are not seated against the wall of the outer metal housing elements 17. Applicants contend that a review of this and the amended independent claims should result in withdraw of the rejections in that the claims specify that the load bearing member outer resilient member unbonded outer surface is inwardly tapered in a direction from the first chamber mouth to the first chamber seat end.

Applicants respectfully request a Notice of Allowance in that the pointed to surfaces of the DE ‘926 Reference are outwardly tapered in the directions from the mouth to the seat end and that these pointed to surfaces are not seated against the inwardly tapered walls of its outer metal housing elements.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ed Murphy", written over a horizontal line.

Edward F. Murphy III

Attorney for Applicant
Reg. No. 38,251
919-468-5979 ext. 6205
Lord Corporation
111 Lord Drive
Cary, North Carolina 27502